

What Do Australians Invest In?

Much of the Australian investment in Canada has come from large companies looking to expand into new markets. As a result, investments have been made in the same sectors that dominate the Australian economy: mining and resource extraction, manufacturing, and transportation.

Australians have also invested in real estate, construction, business services, and financial institutions. In addition, a number of smaller investments have been made in technology-driven sectors such as software, computing, and medical devices.

Examples of Recent Australian Investments in Canada

The following list offers examples of the more significant recent Australian investments in Canada. The list does not include all investments from Australia and it is intended only to convey an impression of the range and diversity of the investment activity.

- financial
- heavy industry
- mining
- construction materials
- transportation
- food and beverage
- manufacturing
- consumer goods and services
- miscellaneous services
- real estate

Source: Investment Canada.

The Australian View of Canada

Canada and Australia share a common cultural, linguistic and institutional background. At the same time, the two economies display both strong similarities and complementarities. Canadian companies operate in ways that are easily understood by Australians.

As a result, Canada is becoming an attractive investment location for Australians looking for an easy and inexpensive way of accessing the entire North American market. Companies setting up in Canada can avoid the legal complexities that are characteristic of setting up businesses in the U.S. Australians also find Canadians closer to them in terms of wanting to enter into longer-term relationships: by contrast they consider Americans more focused on the short-term. And Australians find that there is a favorable business climate in Canada with government policy strongly oriented toward facilitating business ventures. For Australians, Canada could be the perfect springboard into North America.

III. Sectors of Opportunity

The similarities in the Australian and Canadian economies offer companies opportunities to use investment partnerships as the basis for reciprocal access into the Asia-Pacific and North American markets. The mining, automotive, and transportation sectors in the two countries could benefit from cooperative ventures designed to share technology and provide each other with market access.

There are also opportunities to engage in joint R&D and technology transfers in aerospace, biotechnology, computer software, forestry, industrial machinery, waste management, chemical production, medical research and environmental protection. Canada and Australia also share a strong interest in telecommunications and satellite technology.